

Appl. No. 10/536,921
Response to Office Action of April 6, 2006

PATENT
Docket No.: DE020295
Customer No. 000024737

Amendment to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph on page 3, lines 27-29 with the following amended paragraph:

The embodiment dealt with in claim 4 can be used to realize a comfortable and easy to implement slow down of the component if the breaking braking means should be activated before the component component has reached the locking position.

Please replace the paragraph on page 4, lines 22-30 with the following amended paragraph:

The ceiling-stand carriage 12 contains a control unit 122 to which are fed the signals from a position-sensing unit 123, which is used to determine the distance between the ceiling-stand carriage 12 and a wall W of the examination room. Also connected to the control unit 122 is a braking means 124 for the ceiling-stand carriage 12. The braking means 124 is preferably an electromagnetic brake that is active in the de-energized state, that is to say the ceiling-stand carriage is fixed in relation to the ceiling-stand rail 11 and can be released by feeding current to the brake. The braking means 124 may, in general, also be an electrical brake of some other kind and/or a known electromechanical locking means. For example, a magnetic particle clutch or break brake can be used.

Please replace the paragraph on page 7, lines 3-12 with the following amended paragraph:

In order to stop the ceiling-stand carriage 12 softly or smoothly at the triggering position Bx, the stop distance or stop time could be increased by activating the breaking braking means already before the ceiling-stand carriage 12 has reached the trigger position Bx. Therefore, if the speed on entering the window A-C and before reaching the triggering position Bx is below the limiting value or drops below the limiting value,

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the control unit 122 controls (i.e. with a pulse-width modulation) the break brake 124 with respect to the available stop distance and the current speed of the of the ceiling-stand carriage 12. As a result, the ceiling-stand carriage 12 can be smoothly, nearly vibration-free and exactly stopped at the triggering position Bx, without any unnecessary efforts for the user.